



SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT

Fair Oaks Historical Society

October 2022 Newsletter

Issue No.: 142 Editor: Wendy Key

President's Message

Bob Sours

It's Autumn and my favorite time of year. Very soon the leaves will start to fall, and we'll have more coolness in the air. A time to look back on 2022, prepare for the Holidays, slow down a bit from the hurried pace we all live - time to relax.

But wait, how about the "Society". And yes, transparency was promised -- so, here is what your Board is doing to button things up before Santa Clause bursts through the clouds to make our day **ONE OF PEACE**:

This last quarter of 2022 has become a plateful. Not only for our Society, but the Village as well. Various groups have sent you updates on pending activities, and the Park Dept has updated you on The Village construction progress.

For FOHS, your Board has just about finished updating the **BY LAWS** (our constitution). Our Nominating Committee for the election process has been scurrying around seeking out potential candidates for next year's Board of Directors. As President, I cannot be a part of that committee, so I cannot give you an update about their progress. However, reading of the Tea Leaves, I gather that finding candidates this year for the next Board has not been successful so far. So, folks, it's time for all of you members to think about getting more involved in the management of **YOUR** Society. Believe me it's not all work and no play. It's truly a learning experience. Yes, all about Fair Oaks Early Days, but also networking, getting to gain friendships with a common cause, and discovering things that make your heart flutter a bit.

Here is an example: For years, while I was a docent, it was known that a saloon, called the Oasis Saloon, existed down by the river near the railroad station. But no pictures existed of it. One day one of our retired historians stopped in and we got to talking, and he mentioned that someone told him about a dentist that had just retired and had quite a collections of old Fair Oaks pictures. Well --- couldn't pass that up, so we contacted him, and lo and behold, out in his garage he had a great picture of the old saloon. **TALK ABOUT EXCITEMENT!** (Ya, I know, but for a **HISTORY BUFF** it's really hitting a high note.)

Anyway, my friends. We need your help at the management end of our Society. And we know we have many talented people in our membership. Take another look, **PLEASE**, and step up to the plate.

ON OCT 26TH WE HAVE OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING AND OUR ELECTION. PLEASE PUT THAT DATE ON YOUR TO DO LIST, AND WE'LL SEE YOU THERE ---- HOPEFULLY AS A CANDIDATE!

Enjoy this Fall weather!

Celebrating Recent Events

Wendy Key

While putting together this month's newsletter, I was struck by just how many events have been happening. It's almost like old times, pre-pandemic, when we were all able to gather and enjoy each others' company and all that Fair Oaks has to offer. It made me smile and I sure hope it brings a smile to your face too! Members of our Society have been working hard to make existing and new events a success. Below are photos from the Chicken Festival held on September 17, 2022 as well as photos from the History Center's first ever Welcome Hour held on October 1. For more information on Welcome Hour, see the next page with our monthly program. We hope to see you there!



Fair Oaks History Center, Welcome Hour Program

October 2022 - June 2023

The Fair Oaks History Center's new interpretive history program is called **Welcome Hour**.

Once each month, this dynamic program will feature an aspect of Fair Oaks Village's past. Complete with guest experts, a children's activity table, display boards, and thematic decorations, this hour-long "history party" will inform and entertain you and your family.

The History Center is located at 10340 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks, next to Sunflower Drive-In, at the convergence of Fair Oaks Boulevard, Main Street and Sacramento Street.

There is no admission fee to visit the History Center or to attend the Welcome Hour. Come to browse the History Center's permanent displays and items for purchase. (Please note that the History Center is in the process of updating its ability to accept credit and debit cards.)

Saturday, October 1, 2022 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Harvest Time <u>In</u> Historic Fair Oaks
Saturday, November 5, 2022 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Honoring Fair Oaks Veterans
Saturday, December 3, 2022 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Holiday Open House
Saturday, January 7, 2023 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Our Beloved Woman's Thursday Club of Fair Oaks
Saturday, February 4, 2023 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Olives, Olives, Olives in Old Fair Oaks
Saturday, March 4, 2023 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls in Yesterday's Fair Oaks
Saturday, April 1, 2023 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Team Sports in Yesterday's Fair Oaks
Saturday, May 6, 2023 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Historic Houses of Our Fair Oaks Village
Saturday, June 3, 2023 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Weddings and Roses in Old Fair Oaks



The Marshall Diary

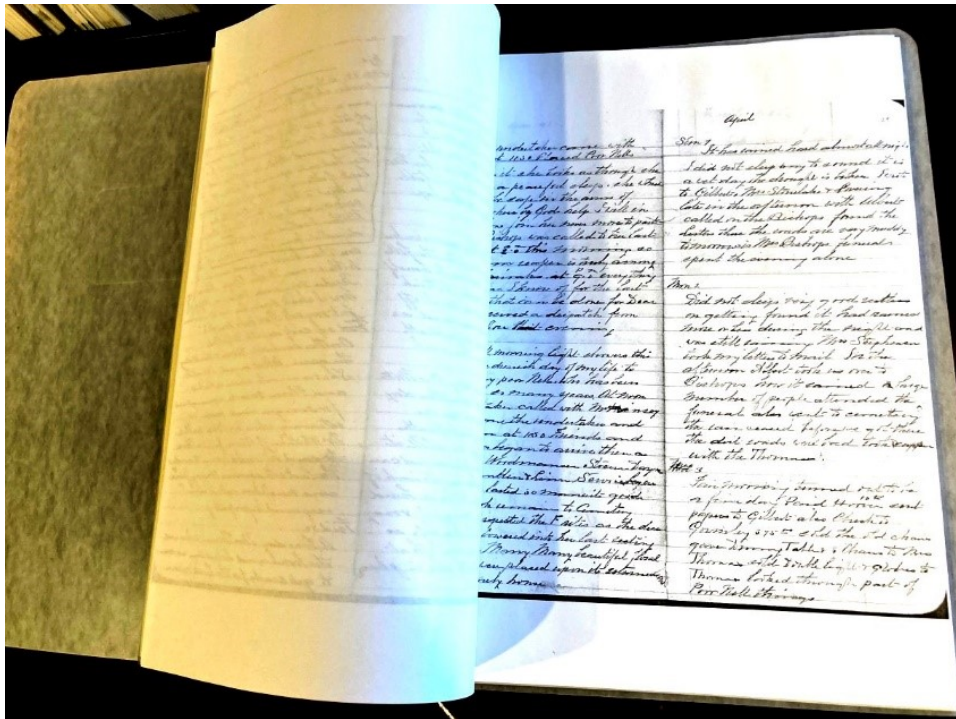
Jim Pearce

Alfred F. Marshall was an original Fair Oaks Colony buyer. He evidently read about the Fair Oaks Colony in the Howard & Wilson advertisements in Farm, Field and Fireside, as he is listed in the 1897 advertising brochure as an initial purchaser of land in Fair Oaks. He probably travelled to Fair Oaks on one of the "Excursion" trains bringing potential buyers from the East to the Colony. By 1903 he is living in Fair Oaks at the corner of Magnolia and Minnesota Avenues.

Remarkably, from 1906 to 1935 he kept a diary, making entries of what he did every day, often quite simplistic, and of course all handwritten. The diary has been in the custody of the Marshall family. Even more remarkable, in the late 1990's Marshall's great grandson Gene Schroeder started a ten year project to transcribe the 275 page diary into a computer. He finished in 2014, a copy of which he and his wife Georgia donated to the Fair Oaks Historical Society in January, 2015. They also provided the computer files, which make the entire set of journals word-searchable.

He was a lifelong carpenter, working on many projects in Fair Oaks including the rebuilding of the Slocum & Gore store and bank, projects at the Olive Plant, and numerous home building jobs for local residents. The fact that Gene put the entire diary into a word processor makes all the entries searchable on names places and any other word is invaluable for our research.

The diaries are available at the History Center.





The Woman's Thursday Club of Fair Oaks, 1952

Sandra S. Navarro, Ph.D.

The Woman's Thursday Club of Fair Oaks was organized in 1902. The archive of this club contains scrap-books of newspaper clippings which highlight club activities throughout the years. Some photographs are preserved such as the one accompanying this article.

This photo shows Thursday Club directors and officers from 1952.

Directors are standing. They are (left to right): Mrs. Earl LeGette, Mrs. B.R. Kerns, Mrs. F.H. Hayes, Mrs. E.K. Rabitte, Mrs. C. Fahey, and Mrs. I.O. Rice.

Officers are seated. They are (left to right): Mrs. J. Fryer (President), Mrs. F. Campoy, Jr. (Treasurer), Mrs. Wesley McCormick (Vice President), and Mrs. N. L. Langness (Installing Officer).

The Woman's Club of Fair Oaks was a member of the Sacramento County Federation of Woman's Clubs. The Fair Oaks group sometimes met with the Woman's Tuesday Club of Sacramento.

The two clubs met jointly to open the 1952-1953 program year. An article from *The Sacramento Bee* (October 15, 1952) records that the speaker for this meeting was Beach Vasey, legislative secretary to Governor Earl Warren. His presentation was titled, "A Voter Views His Ballot."

The Sacramento Bee (October 11, 1952) also identified a speaker who presented at another Thursday Club meeting: Jeanne DeVivier. Jeanne DeVivier was an interviewer for "At Your Service" which was broadcast on Sacramento's radio station KFBK.



Remembering Harry Voth

Jim Pearce

We recently were reminded of Harry Voth by a contribution to the Historical Society of \$2854.28 from the Harry J. and Leisa G. Voth Fund of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation, an organization that raises money to support area non-profits. Harry designated the Fair Oaks Historical Society as the recipient of any proceeds that result from his fund.

Harry was the first president of the Society when it was formed in 1975 and continued to serve the Society and other local organizations over the years until his death in 2003.

Harry is somewhat infamous for his comments in a series of articles in the Chamber newsletter "Enterprise" in 1985 that "attendance at FOHS meetings began to diminish - to the point it became embarrassing to ask speakers to address such small audiences. Today the Society is moribund. Only the officers meet, and that occasionally."

Harry didn't give up, and in a meeting of the Board in 1985, it was decided to change the meetings to quarterly from monthly and have a potluck dinner with a speaker. Word got out, and over 50 people signed up for the first meeting in 1986. The meeting location had to be changed from the Thursday Club building to the Community Clubhouse to accommodate the crowd. The next meeting drew over 80 people. The meetings grew over the years from 80 to over 100.

Harry continues to support the Historical Society posthumously through the Voth fund at the Sacramento Community Foundation which regularly sends a contribution to the Society.



Call for Photographs

The History Center plans to honor Fair Oaks veterans at our November Welcome Hour on Saturday, November 5 at 11:00 am - noon.

Please help us do this by contributing photographs of area veterans – either yourself or a loved one – who currently lives in the area or who was from Fair Oaks when they entered the service. Pictures of veterans in dress uniform, combat fatigues, or civies are all welcome.

Digital images may be emailed to fairoakshistorycenter@gmail.com with the subject title “Fair Oaks Veterans.”

OR physical photographs may be brought to the History Center on Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays between 10 am – 2 pm. We will be happy to scan your photographs for you.

Please include: the veteran’s name, service branch, and years of service.

All images must be received **no later than** Saturday, October 29.

We will assemble the images into a PowerPoint that will run during the event. Hope to see you there!

And for December...please consider donating images for:

Theme: Holidays in Fair Oaks

Images: Depicting December holidays past, anywhere in Fair Oaks (even your home)

Include: The year, specific location, and names of people featured (if any).

Deadline: Saturday, November 26

Again, please send digital images to the above email (subject: Holiday Pictures) or drop by the History Center.

The History Center will not use the images for any other purpose without the donor’s written permission.

Treasurer's Report - Third Quarter 2022 Summary

Jim Pearce

- ◆ Checking Account is stable at \$10,717
- ◆ Savings Account is stable at \$19,460
- ◆ CD is stable at \$26,072

We expect our Insurance Policy cost of \$1,200 to come due in November.

Otherwise, no anticipated costs. Dues for 2023 expected to start in October.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

You can check your membership status on the FOHS website at <https://fairoakshistory.org/>.

If you haven't paid your dues for the current year, please fill out the following and send via mail to Fair Oaks Historical Society, PO Box 2044, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 or go on-line and use the PayPal system.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Membership dues are: (circle one)

Individual \$20, Family (2 Persons) \$25, Supporting (Business) \$50, Single Life Member \$150, and Family Life Member \$225.

Amount enclosed \$ _____ Check number _____ Date of check ____/____/____

For questions, please call Carolyn Spotts at (916) 342-1701 or carolyn.spotts@comcast.net.

Note: Dues are for the Calendar Year, January 1st to December 31st. Dues are payable on January 1st. New members joining after October 1st shall be considered paid for the following year.

FAIR OAKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 2044

FAIR OAKS, CA 95628

